



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: WV112

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or

Location of Position: U S Route 219/ State Route 39, Marlinton, WV 24954

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☒ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☒ Beef Cattle
- ☒ Dairy Cattle
- ☒ Swine
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminant
- ☒ Other : ___ No local veterinary service available
for the majority of the population within this
area

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☐ Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

There are no practicing veterinarians in this county. Veterinary services are often refused by out of area veterinarians who are required to drive many miles to reach an individual farm, thus making it uneconomical and inconvenient to make farm calls. Pocahontas County is a very diverse livestock production location. The most common operations in Pocahontas County are the cow-calf beef cattle producers. However, we have numerous farmers raising sheep, goats, swine, horses and a variety of other livestock. The goals of these operations vary as much as the animals they raise. All though most producers are working towards meat production, several work towards producing quality milk, cheese, wool, hair and quality companion animals. Pocahontas County ranks number seven of fifty five counties in cattle production in the state of West Virginia, and number three in sheep production.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

Any veterinarian willing to locate to this area would be called upon to operate a mixed practice with a large percentage of clientele presenting livestock. This area has supported a veterinary service in the past, but this office closed after the facility was flooded and the practitioner retired. The person serving this area would ideally be able to make farm visits and maintain office hours on a limited but regular basis. The local livestock market will need the services of a large animal veterinarian to fulfill the requirements for Animal Disease Traceability, but no one is available at this time to service this market. The first priorities in a disease situation are identification and containment, both of which are much better served by a trained professional.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Citizens of this area have not had a concerted effort to reestablish a large animal veterinary practice. We have numerous reports from farmers in this area of failed attempts to procure farm call service for livestock related incidents. Veterinary service is requested by farmers from practitioners from neighboring Greenbrier County and from across the state line in Virginia, but farm calls are refused due to distance from practice site, thus leaving Pocahontas County farmers without assistance.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

USDA can help ensure there is a first line of defense against animal diseases across the United States by placing qualified veterinarians in areas where there is a critical need. This program will help support veterinary services for mixed and large animal veterinary practices in West Virginia, especially in the area of food animal medicine, which will reduce stress on producers and improve the health of the livestock industry. The production animal industry in West Virginia is only as strong as its weakest link. The safety of food animal production is incrementally increased by increasing the resources for veterinary health coverage in this area of the state.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a “service in emergency” agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the “Service in Emergency” agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Jewell Plumley, DVM

Title: Acting State Veterinarian

Organization: West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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